

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

Claims 1-9 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kita U.S. Patent No. 6,263,218 (hereinafter "Kita").

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Higuchi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,697,647 (hereinafter "Higuchi").

Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Togawa Japanese Patent Application No. JP2001086202A (hereinafter "Togawa").

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

Applicant has added new claims 15-34 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, and 11 without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution.

Applicant has cancelled claim 6 in order to expedite prosecution.

Applicant reserves the right to claim any subject matter lost by any claim amendment or cancellation, or any subject matter included in the present application, in any number of continuation or divisional applications.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection

Claims 1-9 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kita.

Claim 1

Applicant has amended the subject matter of claim 6 into claim 1 in order to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner stated that Kita discusses a:

"sensing device (24, figs. 1, 12A/12B) [that] is an autonomous device." (Office Action, page 3)

Structure 24 of Kita, however, only refers to an alleged incoming notification signal transmitter.

Structure 12A/12B also discusses an alleged incoming notification signal generator.

Kita does not show or suggest an autonomous sensing device. Kita merely discusses receiving signals meant for a specific type of device and utilizing these signals by the specific type of device. Accordingly, Kita does not show or suggest an autonomous sensing device.

In light of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claim 1, and any claims dependent therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) be withdrawn.

Claim 14

The Examiner stated that:

"Kita discloses a system ... wherein the communication device is configured to provide notification signals that are only light based and the notification signals are dependent upon the received communication signals" (col. 20, line 65 - col. 21, line 8).

The section identified by the Examiner, however, includes:

"Wrist-type incoming notification unit 216 is characterized in that a normal wrist watch is provided with antenna 221, reception circuit 222, and signal detection circuit 222 and when a

response signal transmitted from PHS slave unit 216 is detected by a signal detection circuit 223, the unit 26 sends a signal to notification control section 224 to flicker the light of a photoemissive element such as LED or EL (electroluminescence), output alarm sound from a sound element, or notify the incoming to PHS slave unit 216 by separate-case wrist-type incoming notification unit 216 by performing a vibrator call by a vibrator element."

Applicant's invention of claim 14 clearly states that the remote communication device is configured to provide notification signals that are only light-based. Kita does not show or suggest such a feature. The Examiner's selected portion of Kita clearly states that notification unit 216 can provide a light flicker and an output alarm and a vibration. The ability to provide a light flicker, alarm, and a vibration does not - in any way, shape, or form - show or suggest a remote communication device able to provide notifications that are only light based.

As shown above, claim 14 is patentable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claim 14, and any claims dependent therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Higuchi.

Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Togawa.

As shown above, applicant's independent claim 1 is patentable. Claims 10-13 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that

claims 10-13 are patentable for depending from a patentable independent claim.

New Claims 15-30

As shown above, claims 1 and 14 are patentable. Claims 15-30 depend from patentable claims 1 and 14. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that new claims 15-30 are patentable as new claims 15-30 depend from patentable independent claims.

New Claims 31-34

As shown above, claim 14 is patentable. New claim 31 includes patentable features included in patentable claim 14. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that new claim 31, and any claims dependent therefrom, is patentable.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that this application, including the pending claims, is in condition for allowance. A favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this filing, or credit any overpayment of the same, to Deposit Account No. 50-3855.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Jeffrey D. Mullen/
Jeffrey D. Mullen
Applicant (Reg. No. 52,056)
Customer No. 32733
731 South Negley, Apt. 2
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
Tel.: (914) 837-7741